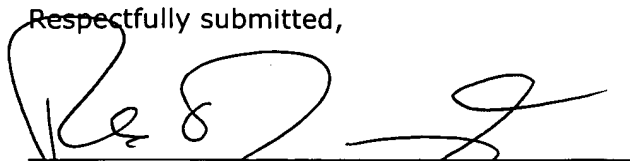


**Remarks:**

Entry of the new claims provided herein is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Rex A. Donnelly, Reg. No. 41,712  
Attorney for Applicant

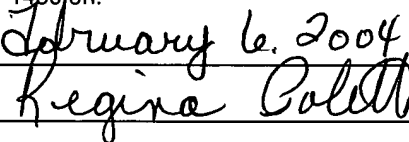
RAD/rc

Dated: February 5, 2004

P.O. Box 1596 Wilmington, DE 19899 (302) 778-2600
---

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

February 6, 2004  


R\_W:\WIL\115US\PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT.DOC